

BLACKSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

News Release

DATE: April 24, 2003

CONTACT: Lt. B.E. Bradbery 961-1810

SUBJECT: Fire Injures Local Man

Blacksburg Police are investigating an apartment fire that injured a local resident this evening.

Police, fire and rescue units responded to Building F, of Hilltop Terrace at 8:57 p.m. in response to the residents call about a kitchen fire. When police arrived a tenant could not be located outside.

Members of the Blacksburg Fire Department, while controlling the fire, entered the apartment and located the occupant within minutes in a back bedroom. The unconscious victim was carried to safety by firefighters and treated at the scene before transport to Montgomery Regional Hospital.

The resident 68-year-old Maxwell R. Palmer, Jr., was in stable condition at the hospital and awaiting transfer to a Charlottesville Burn Center. He sustained first and second degree burns to his right hand and face. It also appears that he suffered smoke inhalation injuries. While his condition is listed only as stable, quick action by firefighters lessened the amount and severity of the injuries.

There was heavy smoke and smoke damage throughout the apartment. The blaze was contained in the living room and kitchen area and the damage is estimated at \$1000.00 to the structure.